

Peoria Park District Contract Abstract

This contract has been entered into for the purpose of providing a drop-out recovery program for the youth. The contract began on July 1, 2018 and will terminate on June 30, 2019. This contract is renewable for two additional years at the discretion of Career Link. The funding amount is \$187,832. The enrollment goal is 20 students. To participate students must meet the eligibility criteria for out-of-school youth as defined in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Peoria Park District will provide the intensive education and employment skills program for Peoria County youth. The program will serve students, ages 16-24, that have dropped out of high school, have a deficiency in literacy or numeracy, and are economically disadvantaged, will be provided an opportunity to participate in a GED Recovery Program.

Peoria Park District will provide all four required elements of the program – instruction for GED preparation, for literacy and numeracy gains, for employment related skills and incentives to motivate students to achieve. Peoria Park District will also partner with other groups and businesses to provide workforce experiences.

All students participating in Moonlight Coalition for Adult Learning do so on an open entry/open exit basis, which removes constraints and barriers relative to specific enrollment and attendance guidelines. This system meets the needs of the target population of the program.

Staff will provide individual goal setting meetings with students. A plan will be made with the student according to their interests. Two follow-up meetings will be offered. If outside services are needed i.e. counseling, financial coaching, etc. staff will help arrange.

Moonlight students ages 16-24 who demonstrate regular and reliable patterns of attendance, work ethic and academic performance are selected to participate in a related work program. Selected students are required to complete an orientation prior to beginning the work program. Orientation is conducted by Moonlight staff and includes seven hours of teaching and role-play to develop skills regarding communication, work attendance, appearance, work ethic, etc. Once orientation is completed, students are eligible to be placed in a community job site.

Incentives are offered in the form of checks made out to students when they achieve targeted benchmarks. Incentives will also be awarded with achievements in grade level improvements, attendance, and passing elements of the GED test.